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Application No.: 10/724,078

Docket No.: 20665-00025-US1

REMARKS

Claims 2-5 are pending in the application. Claims 4 and 5 have been withdrawn from consideration. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

New drawing figures have been enclosed to replace the figures to which an objection is made.

The abstract has been amended to avoid the objection raised in the Office Action.

Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is requested in that the claims have been amended to avoid the concerns raised in the Office Action.

Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Sakaguchi et al. in view of Medebach is requested.

The present invention is directed to a mechanism for operating the window of a vehicle door. Such windows are supported by carriers located within a panel of the door. As the carrier plate moves up and down carrying the glass from a closure position to an open position for the window, it is possible that the supporting wires for the carrier plate can be cut. This is set forth in the application, particularly, on page 9, wherein it is disclosed how, when the door is opened and closed, the bottom of the glass deflects towards the vehicle, and a bending force with a large angle of bending is repeatedly applied to the fastening point of the wires to carrier plate. This force can result in cutting of the wire at the fastening point.

The present invention as exemplified by amended claim 2 avoids this problem. In accordance with the present invention, the wires connected to the carrier plate enter through holes in the carrier plate. The holes have flared guide portions, which centrally locate the wires. The flared guide portions have an inner curved surface for guiding the wires and preventing cutting of the wires as the carrier plate moves. Accordingly, the present invention provides a solution to the forgoing problem.

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Turning now to the reference to Sakaguchi et al., a carrier plate is fixed to the intermediate portion of the support wires. See in particular col. 4, lines 30-col. 4, line 65. While there is a general description of fixing the wire to the carrier plate, the foregoing features of Applicants claim 2 remain undisclosed. Namely, the use of flared portions for centering the wires through an opening in the carrier plate, which have a curved portion so that the wires are not cut during movement of the carrier and glass plate are not shown. The only disclosure appearing in the reference is a generalized statement that the side surface of the carrier plate is fixed to the intermediate portion of the wire.

Turning now to the cited secondary reference to Medebach, another structure for operating the window of an automobile is disclosed. This reference as well does not disclose, as is required by amended claim 2, the particular type of flared structure for centering the wire within the hole of the carrier plate to avoid the aforementioned problem of cutting the wires during movement of the carrier plate. The analysis in the Office Action, which conclude that Medebach discloses a carrier plate 16 having a wire fixing portion 11 on said carrier plate, a through hole 12 is formed in part of the carrier plate, a free end 8 of the wires inserted through the hole, a stopper member 3 having a larger diameter than that of said wires are fixed to sides of the wire free end inserted through the through hole, and an trumpet-shaped guide portion 4 is formed at hole edges at the pulley sides, is believed to be without support. It appears from Medebach, that the wire is supported by expanding element 4 which has a oblique surfaces 22 which essentially correspond to the oblique surfaces 20 of latching arms 18. See col. 3, lines 52-59 and FIGS. 1 and 2. This disclosure is insufficient to suggest the Applicants invention as set forth in claim 2.

As neither reference discloses the structure of the flared guide portions, for centering the wires, and providing the curved surface to avoid the cutting of wires during movement of the guide plate, the references cannot be combined in a manner to yield such structure.

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In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 20665-00025-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: 4/26/05

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Kindly substitute the enclosed drawing FIGS. 2A-2C and 9-10 with the enclosed new drawing figures.

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